

*AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION*

Replace paragraph 18 with:

In accordance with a manner known in the art, the poles 22 are typically straight, but are flexible so that they can be bent. When the poles are installed, they are extended through the sleeves 26 and are bent into arcs and are attached at the corners 24 of the tent 20. Specifically, when assembling the tent 20, a user inserts one of the poles 22 through one diagonal set of sleeves (e.g., the sleeves 26) and attaches one end of the pole to a corner 24, such as by inserting a pin (not shown, but known in the art) attached to the corner 24 into a hollow end of the pole 22. Alternatively, the end of the pole 22 may be attached in another manner, such as by inserting the end into a sleeve ~~132~~ (e.g., one of the sleeves 136 (FIG. 3), 236 (FIG. 4), 336 (FIG. 5)) located at the corner ~~24~~ (e.g., 124, 224, or 324).

Replace paragraph 23 with:

FIGS. 1, and 3-5 show four different embodiments of tents 20, 120, 220, and 320. Each of these embodiments includes similar features, but has different mechanisms 26, 126, 226, 326 (e.g., sleeves or hooks) for attaching the respective tent 20, 120, 220, 320 to the respective poles 22, 122, 222, 322. For ease of reference, for each of these embodiments, the last two numbers for like elements are the same, but the first number indicates the element for that specific example. For example, the elements in FIG. 3 are similar to FIG. 1, but they additionally include the reference numeral “1” in the hundreds place (e.g., in front of the two-digit reference numerals representing like parts to those in FIG. 1). The tent in FIG. 4 includes the reference numeral “2” in front of like reference numerals, and the tent in FIG. 5 includes the reference numeral “3” in front of like elements. Thus, for example, the sidewalls 228 (FIG. 4) and 328 (FIG. 5) are like elements to the sidewalls 28 (FIG. 1). Similarly, corners 224 (FIG. 4) and 324 (FIG. 5) are like elements to the corners 24 (FIG. 1), edges 230 (FIG. 4) and 330 (FIG. 5) are like elements to the edges 30 (FIG. 1), the loops 232 (FIG. 4) and 332 (FIG. 5) are like elements to the loop 32 (FIG. 1), the rain flies 240 (FIG. 4) and 340 (FIG. 5) are like elements to the rain fly 140 (FIG. 3), and so forth.

Replace paragraph 25 with:

Although the prior art tent 50 works well for its intended purpose, in practice, the poles 54 for prior art tents were too close to the side edges 58, causing the rain fly 60 to be too close to the sidewall 56. Thus, when winds approach the tent 50, for example in the direction of the arrow 70 in FIG. 32, the portion of the rain fly 60 in-between two adjacent poles 54 may be blown against the side of the tent 50, reducing the ventilation provided between the rain fly 60 and the tent 50. In addition, contact of the rain fly 60 with the tent 50 may cause water to drain off the rain fly 60 and onto the tent.

Replace paragraph 27 with:

To address the prior art problems described above, without adding significant length to the poles 22, in accordance with an embodiment of the invention, as can be seen in FIG. 3, the tent sidewalls ~~28-128~~ and tent side ~~edges~~ ~~edges 30-130~~ are contoured inward so that a middle portion 80 of the poles 122 is spaced farther from an adjacent side edge 130 than a top portion 82 or a bottom portion 84. Thus, the spacing of the poles 122 from the side edges 130 of the tent 120 is asymmetrical. This configuration permits the poles 122 to be anchored to the top of the tent 120 (e.g., to the loop 132) and to the corners 124 of the tent 120, maximizing the tent dimensions in those areas, but also permits the bottom portion of a rain fly 140 to be spaced significantly apart from the sidewalls 128 of the tent 120.

Replace paragraph 28 with:

In accordance with an embodiment of the invention, relative to prior art tents (e.g., the prior art tent 50), the poles 122 remain in the same position (i.e., maintain the same configuration as in the prior art tents), and the body or sidewalls ~~28-128~~ and edges ~~30-130~~ are tapered so that the poles 22 can have the asymmetrical profile. This difference can be seen, for example, by comparing FIGS. 2 and 4.

Replace paragraph 30 with:

The asymmetrical poles ~~22-122~~ of the present invention provide additional ventilation for a tent, such as the tent ~~20~~120. First, the bottom edge of a rain fly such as the rain fly 140 in FIG.

3 is spaced farther from the sidewalls ~~28-128~~ for the tent ~~20~~ 120. In addition, a wider air gap is provided between the middle portion 80 of the poles 122, permitting greater air flow between the rain fly 140 and the tent 120. This additional ventilation and the spacing of the bottom of the rain fly 140 from the sidewalls 128 is provided without sacrificing the stability offered by attachment of the poles 122 to the corners ~~24-124~~ and top ~~72~~ 82.

Please delete paragraph 35.

Replace paragraph 36 with:

The use of the terms "a" and "an" and "the" and similar referents in the context of describing the invention (especially in the context of the following claims) are to be construed to cover both the singular and the plural, unless otherwise indicated herein or clearly contradicted by context. The terms "comprising," "having," "including," and "containing" are to be construed as open-ended terms (i.e., meaning "including, but not limited to,") unless otherwise noted. The term "connected" is to be construed as partly or wholly contained within, attached to, or joined together, even if there is something intervening. ~~Recitation of ranges of values herein are merely intended to serve as a shorthand method of referring individually to each separate value falling within the range, unless otherwise indicated herein, and each separate value is incorporated into the specification as if it were individually recited herein.~~ All methods described herein can be performed in any suitable order unless otherwise indicated herein or otherwise clearly contradicted by context. The use of any and all examples, or exemplary language (e.g., "such as") provided herein, is intended merely to better illuminate embodiments of the invention and does not pose a limitation on the scope of the invention unless otherwise claimed. No language in the specification should be construed as indicating any non-claimed element as essential to the practice of the invention.